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EASINGTON RURAL DISTRICT

*Durham*

REPORT  
OF THE  
MEDICAL OFFICER  
OF HEALTH



FOR THE  
YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER, 1956



EASINGTON RURAL DISTRICT

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REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER  
OF HEALTH

FOR THE

YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER, 1956



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# EASINGTON RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

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Chairman :

COUNCILLOR ROBERT WYLIE ROWE, J.P.

Vice-Chairman :

COUNCILLOR JOHN BAINBRIDGE

COUNCILLORS :

|                    |                     |
|--------------------|---------------------|
| Coun. A. Allen     | Coun. F. Hutchinson |
| „ R. M. Allison    | „ J. J. Johnson     |
| „ Mrs. E. Beaumont | „ A. Langthorne     |
| „ M. W. Brown      | „ G. W. F. Leck     |
| „ J. Bruce         | „ J. McGuiness      |
| „ J. Burnip        | „ J. P. McMann      |
| „ W. F. Butt       | „ Mrs. I. McManners |
| „ E. Cain, J.P.    | „ T. Metcalfe       |
| „ T. J. Charters   | „ Mrs. M. Monk      |
| „ W. Collinson     | „ J. Nicholson      |
| „ C. Cornell       | „ M. Pattison       |
| „ J. Cowie         | „ Mrs. F. M. Peart  |
| „ H. Curry         | „ M. Purcell        |
| „ T. Curry         | „ J. Roach          |
| „ J. B. Davison    | „ J. C. Robinson    |
| „ W. Farmer        | „ G. W. Roseby      |
| „ A. Foster        | „ W. S. Shipman     |
| „ T. Gallagher     | „ R. Smith          |
| „ W. Gilchrist     | „ E. Sullivan       |
| „ W. R. Gowland    | „ R. Tait           |
| „ J. W. Hays       | „ R. Taylor         |
| „ G. Henderson     | „ E. Wilding        |

Clerk : T. AGAR

Treasurer, Accountant and Chief Rating Officer :  
E. L. ALLISON, F.I.M.T.A.,

## PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE COUNCIL

---

Medical Officer of Health—J. W. A. RODGERS, M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H.

Senior Public Health Inspector—

R. E. V. WARRAND, Cert. P.H.I.Ed.B., M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H.

Public Health Inspector—J. R. DAY, Cert. P.H.I.Ed.B.

Public Health Inspector—

T. J. RICHARDS, Cert. P.H.I.Ed.B., M.R.S.H.

Public Health Inspector—

G. STODDART, Cert. P.H.I.Ed.B., M.R.S.H.

Public Health Inspector—P. E. BUDD, Cert. P.H.I.Ed.B.

Public Health Inspector—P. F. JONES, Cert. P.H.I.Ed.B.

Sanitary Surveyor—R. R. LUMSDEN, Dip.M.Eng.

Cleansing Superintendent—D. WARD, M.Inst.P.C.

Water Superintendent—G. WATSON.



# EASINGTON RURAL DISTRICT

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## REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE

Year ended 31st December, 1956.

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EASINGTON,

Co. DURHAM,

1957.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting to you the Annual Report on the health and sanitary conditions of your district for the year 1956.

The work accomplished by the department during the year is described in the various sections of the report, and the section relating to the work of the Inspectorial staff has been compiled by the Senior Public Health Inspector. Contributions from the Engineer and Surveyor and the Cleansing Superintendent are also included.

It is the purpose of this introductory letter to indicate the main points of interest contained in the body of the report with some comment where necessary.

### VITAL STATISTICS

This heading includes the figures or rates which allow a comparison to be made between the health of the inhabitants of the district in different years and the health of the country as a whole. They include the birth rate, the general death rate, the infantile mortality rate and the maternal mortality rate.

## BIRTH RATE

The figure of 18·87 per 1,000 of the population shows an increase on that of 17·93 for 1955 and is higher than the rate for England and Wales as a whole, which is 15·7. The figures given in Table 3 show this year's birth rate as the highest since 1949.

## GENERAL DEATH RATE

The general death rate of 9·4 is almost one per 1,000 higher than last year's district record figure of 8·5, but with this exception it is lower than any previous district rate and compares favourably with the national figure of 11·7 which shows no change from 1955.

## INFANTILE MORTALITY

The rate of 30·3 per 1,000 live births is a welcome decrease on that of 33·6 for 1955, and apart from the 1954 figure of 25·7 it is the lowest on record for the district. It should not be overlooked, however, that the infantile mortality rate for England and Wales continues to fall, and is 6·5 per 1,000 less than the figure for Easington Rural District. Indeed, the national rate of 23·8 is the lowest ever recorded.

Of the total of 48 deaths in infants under one year 32 (67%) occurred in the first four weeks of life, giving a neonatal mortality rate of 20·2 per 1,000 live births. In 12 of these prematurity was given as the primary cause of death and in five as contributory. The rate for England and Wales for the year under review is 16·9.

## MATERNAL MORTALITY

There were two maternal deaths during the year, both from "other maternal causes", giving a maternal mortality rate of 1·23 compared with the national rate of 0·56. Until this year there have been no maternal deaths in the district since 1951.

## INDIVIDUAL CAUSES OF DEATH

The table giving the individual causes of death shows that heart disease still retains its position at the head of the list with diseases of the blood vessels of the brain moving to second place and cancer dropping to third, followed by bronchitis and pneumonia. Altogether these four causes were again responsible for 71% of the total deaths in the district.

Bearing in mind the research over the past few years into the possible causes of the increase in the death rate from lung cancer, it may be well to observe the percentage of deaths from lung cancer in relation to the total deaths in the district. In 1945, 0·94% of the total deaths were due to this disease, in 1950—1·05%, and in 1955—2·00%. For the year under review the figure has risen to 2·54%.



## TUBERCULOSIS

The statistics for this disease are set out and summarised in the relevant section of the report. New cases of both forms of the disease showed a decrease on the previous year. Deaths during 1956 were pulmonary nine and non-pulmonary two compared with 11 pulmonary and one non-pulmonary for 1955. Mortality rates for the district are pulmonary 0·107 and non-pulmonary 0·024 as compared with the national rates of 0·109 and 0·012.

A scheme for the B.C.G. vaccination of thirteen-year-old children throughout the district was commenced in January. Parental consent was given in respect of 638 children. Of this number 589 were tested, 203 of whom were found to be positive. The total number vaccinated was 369. Another such operation was undertaken in November, when 283 children were vaccinated. In this connection thanks are due to the Clerks of Parish Councils throughout the district who responded to a request by circular letter to further the schemes by poster display and informing the general public in the parishes through the medium of Women's Institutes and other social gatherings.

The Regional Hospital Board Mass Radiography Unit visited Horden from the 19th to 22nd March. There was a satisfactory response from the general public in the neighbourhood, 1,642 persons attending for X-ray. The Unit's visit to Wingate from 18th to 21st June brought a disappointing return of only 706 attendances, but in the following week at Thornley over a period of four days 1,263 were X-rayed.

Advantage was taken of the Mass Radiography visits to encourage those children found during the B.C.G. vaccination schemes to have a positive reaction and their family contacts to attend for X-ray. The co-operation of the Superintendent Health Visitor was sought, and personal home visitation was undertaken by the district health visitors with excellent results.

## INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The notifications of these diseases are set out in Table 7, which also gives the final figures after correction.

There were no epidemics during the year, but scarlet fever incidence was higher than that of 1955. Only 21 cases of whooping cough were notified and measles cases dropped from 1,167 in 1955 to 132.

Poliomyelitis was more prevalent in the district and there were 10 confirmed cases, fortunately mild in the main and non-fatal.

There was no repetition of the dysentery epidemic of 1955 and of the 10 cases notified only seven were confirmed. Food poisoning notifications numbered nine, of which six were confirmed.

The district was free from diphtheria during the year.

## DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

Primary immunisations for the year numbered 985 compared with 719 in 1955. Much of this increase was due to the small scheme which was commenced at Murton towards the end of 1955 and completed during January of this year. Over 200 Murton school-age children received primary immunisation.

Reinforcing injections were given during the year to 415 children. This figure is comparable with those over the past few years, and it should therefore be explained that the 822 such injections for the year 1955 included over 500 children 'reinforced' during the Murton special programme.

## VACCINATION AGAINST POLIOMYELITIS

In a Circular dated 19th January, 1956, sent to local health authorities, the Ministry of Health made proposals for the use of a vaccine against poliomyelitis and for its fair distribution among those age groups in which the disease is most prevalent.

The first batch of the vaccine was received into the county in May of this year, and full advantage was taken of the allocation for Easington Rural District. Further supplies were obtained to allow for vaccination up to the end of June, after which date it was considered by the Ministry to be unsafe to vaccinate until November of the year. At the end of the May and June months 279 children had been completely vaccinated and 158 had received one injection. The programme was re-commenced when a batch was received in December, enabling 132 of the partly vaccinated children to be completely protected. At the end of the year, therefore, 411 children of the 1947 to 1954 age group had been completely vaccinated against poliomyelitis and 26 awaited their second injection.

Apart from a few days in the May and June programme when a clerical assistant was provided by the County Health Department, the internal clerical work for the poliomyelitis vaccination scheme was undertaken by the Council's Health Department staff. This, together with some 'inside' work on the B.C.G. vaccination schemes, was achieved only by concentrated effort and at the cost of some slackening in the department's routine clerical work. Salary reimbursement was claimed and the County Council requested to expedite the provision of clerical staff for area health work.



## WATER

Routine sampling of piped water supply has been continued during the year. All 52 samples submitted to bacteriological examination were reported as satisfactory. Further details regarding the water supply of the district will be found in the Senior Public Health Inspector's and Engineer and Surveyor's sections of the report.

## LABORATORY FACILITIES

Bacteriological testing of throat swabs, faeces, urine and other human specimens is undertaken at the Public Health Laboratory, Havelock Hospital, Sunderland. Routine weekly samples of ice-cream, water and milk have been submitted for examination during the year, and I am grateful to Dr. Crone, the laboratory Director, for his help on several occasions on problems connected with meat inspection where bacteriological examination has been necessary.

In August, five of the Council's employees attended the laboratory for Widal examination prior to the cleaning of Haswell reservoir.

## SANITARY CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

The section of the report dealing with the environmental services has been contributed by the Senior Public Health Inspector, and with it is included a section dealing with housing, water supply and sewerage contributed by the Engineer and Surveyor and one covering public cleansing by the Cleansing Superintendent. These three sections contain much of interest and, since the contents do not allow of easy summary, they should be read as a whole.

## HOUSING

Re-housing of families displaced from 177 houses of the Murton No. 148 Clearance Order proceeded throughout the year. In February the Council made representation for the second phase of clearance in this 'Cornwall' district of Murton. This area, No. 149, comprises 160 houses accommodating 167 families and 589 persons, and Ministry of Housing and Local Government confirmation of the Order was given on the 12th July.

## NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948

Several cases of persons in need of care and attention have been investigated and brought to the notice of the local health authority during the year. Where possible residential accommod-

ation was provided, but in certain instances only a place on the waiting list could be given. The County Welfare Sub-Committee has now control of 14 homes with a total of 655 beds, but progressive increases in accommodation are still insufficient to meet the need for care and attention under Section 47 of the Act.

## STAFF

There were no changes in the inspectorial and clerical staffs of the department during the year.

## CONCLUSION

From a perusal of the foregoing paragraphs and the figures contained therein it will be seen that the general health of the district has been satisfactorily maintained in 1956.

The birth rate of 18·9 per 1,000 is the highest for the district since 1949, and the general death rate of 9·4 is two per 1,000 less than the national rate. The infantile mortality rate, for so many years a cause for concern in this district, is steadily decreasing to a figure more comparable with the rate for England and Wales. The natural increase of 9·5 per 1,000 of the district's population is the highest since 1948.

In conclusion I wish again to thank all members and officials of the Council for their support, and to express my gratitude to the inspectorial and clerical staffs of the Health Department, particularly Mr. Warrand the Senior Public Health Inspector and Mr. Branthwaite the Chief Clerk, for their valuable assistance and willing co-operation.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

J. W. A. RODGERS,

Medical Officer of Health.

## SECTION I.

### CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

---

|   |         |          |
|---|---------|----------|
| Area (in acres)   | .. .. . | 34,653   |
| Registrar General's estimate of resident population<br>year, 1956             | .. .. . | 83,820   |
| Number of Hereditaments on 31st December, 1956<br>according to the Rate Books | .. .. . | 27,496   |
| Rateable Value (at 1st April, 1956)   | .. .. . | £345,243 |
| Sum represented by Penny Rate (1955-56)                                       | .. .. . | £1,296   |

### VITAL STATISTICS

#### **Births :—Live Births.**

|              | Male  | Female | Total |
|--------------|-------|--------|-------|
| Legitimate   | 780   | 764    | 1544  |
| Illegitimate | 21    | 17     | 38    |
|              | <hr/> | <hr/>  | <hr/> |
|              | 801   | 781    | 1582  |
|              | <hr/> | <hr/>  | <hr/> |

|  |         |       |
|--|---------|-------|
| Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident<br>population | .. .. . | 18·87 |
|--|---------|-------|

#### **Still Births :—**

|              |       |       |       |
|--------------|-------|-------|-------|
| Legitimate   | 25    | 13    | 38    |
| Illegitimate | 1     | 3     | 4     |
|              | <hr/> | <hr/> | <hr/> |
|              | 26    | 16    | 42    |
|              | <hr/> | <hr/> | <hr/> |

|                             |         |       |
|-----------------------------|---------|-------|
| Rate per 1,000 total births | .. .. . | 25·86 |
|-----------------------------|---------|-------|

#### **Infantile Mortality :—**

Deaths of infants under 1 year :

|              |       |       |       |
|--------------|-------|-------|-------|
| Legitimate   | 28    | 19    | 47    |
| Illegitimate | 1     | —     | 1     |
|              | <hr/> | <hr/> | <hr/> |
|              | 29    | 19    | 48    |
|              | <hr/> | <hr/> | <hr/> |



### INFANTILE MORTALITY RATES

Death rate of all infants under one year per 1,000 live births, 30·34.

Death rate of legitimate infants under one year per 1,000 legitimate live births, 30·44.

Death rate of illegitimate infants under one year per 1,000 illegitimate live births, 26·315

### NEONATAL MORTALITY

Deaths of infants under 4 weeks :

|   |    | Male          | Female        | Total         |      |
|---|----|---------------|---------------|---------------|------|
| Legitimate  | .. | 19            | 12            | 31            |      |
| Illegitimate  | .. | 1             | —             | 1             |      |
|   |    | <u>      </u> | <u>      </u> | <u>      </u> |      |
|   |    | 20            | 12            | 32            |      |
|   |    | <u>      </u> | <u>      </u> | <u>      </u> |      |
| Death rate per 1,000 live births                          | .. | ..            | ..            | 20·23         |      |
| DEATHS  | .. | 423           | 364           | 787           |      |
| Death rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population | .. | ..            | ..            | ..            | 9·39 |

### MATERNAL DEATHS

Deaths from Puerperal Causes—

|                         |    |    |    |    |    |               |
|-------------------------|----|----|----|----|----|---------------|
| from Sepsis             | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | Nil.          |
| from Other Causes       |    | .. | .. | .. | .. | 2             |
|                         |    |    |    |    |    | <u>      </u> |
| Total                   | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 2             |
|                         |    |    |    |    |    | <u>      </u> |
| Maternal Mortality Rate |    |    | .. | .. | .. | 1·23          |

TABLE 1. DEATHS—CAUSES AND AGES AT DEATH.

|   | All<br>Ages | Under<br>4<br>weeks | 4 weeks-<br>under<br>1 year | 1<br>to<br>4 | 5<br>to<br>14 | 15<br>to<br>24 | 25<br>to<br>34 | 35<br>to<br>44 | 45<br>to<br>54 | 55<br>to<br>64 | 65<br>to<br>74 | 75<br>up |
|---|-------------|---------------------|-----------------------------|--------------|---------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------|
| Tuberculosis, Respiratory                 | 9           | —                   | —                           | —            | —             | —              | 1              | 2              | 2              | 2              | 2              | —        |
| Tuberculosis, Other                       | 2           | —                   | —                           | —            | —             | 1              | —              | —              | 1              | —              | —              | —        |
| Syphilitic Disease                        | —           | —                   | —                           | —            | —             | —              | —              | —              | —              | —              | —              | —        |
| Diphtheria                                | —           | —                   | —                           | —            | —             | —              | —              | —              | —              | —              | —              | —        |
| Whooping Cough                            | —           | —                   | —                           | —            | —             | —              | —              | —              | —              | —              | —              | —        |
| Meningococcal Infections                  | 1           | —                   | —                           | 1            | —             | —              | —              | —              | —              | —              | —              | —        |
| Acute Poliomyelitis                       | —           | —                   | —                           | —            | —             | —              | —              | —              | —              | —              | —              | —        |
| Measles                                   | —           | —                   | —                           | —            | —             | —              | —              | —              | —              | —              | —              | —        |
| Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases    | 3           | —                   | —                           | —            | —             | —              | 1              | —              | —              | 1              | —              | 1        |
| Malignant Neoplasm, Leukaemia, Aleukaemia | 124         | —                   | —                           | —            | —             | 2              | 3              | 4              | 26             | 22             | 45             | 22       |
| Diabetes                                  | 2           | —                   | —                           | —            | —             | —              | —              | —              | —              | —              | 2              | —        |
| Vascular Lesions of Nervous System        | 130         | 1                   | —                           | —            | —             | —              | —              | 3              | 7              | 16             | 46             | 57       |
| Coronary Disease, Angina                  | 122         | —                   | —                           | —            | —             | —              | —              | —              | 14             | 29             | 51             | 28       |
| Hypertension with Heart Disease           | 16          | —                   | —                           | —            | —             | —              | —              | —              | 1              | 3              | 8              | 4        |
| Other Heart Disease                       | 107         | —                   | —                           | —            | —             | 2              | 1              | 3              | 9              | 14             | 24             | 54       |
| Other Circulatory Disease                 | 40          | —                   | —                           | —            | —             | —              | —              | 1              | 2              | 2              | 7              | 28       |
| Influenza                                 | 3           | —                   | —                           | —            | —             | —              | —              | 1              | —              | —              | —              | 2        |
| Pneumonia                                 | 23          | 2                   | —                           | —            | —             | —              | —              | 1              | 3              | 4              | 4              | 5        |
| Bronchitis                                | 37          | —                   | 4                           | —            | —             | —              | —              | 1              | 4              | 11             | 14             | 6        |
| Other Diseases of Respiratory System      | 9           | —                   | —                           | —            | 1             | —              | —              | 1              | 2              | 2              | 3              | —        |
| Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum             | 9           | —                   | —                           | —            | —             | —              | —              | —              | 1              | —              | 5              | —        |
| Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea        | 1           | —                   | 1                           | —            | —             | —              | —              | —              | —              | —              | —              | —        |
| Nephritis and Nephrosis                   | 6           | —                   | —                           | —            | 1             | 1              | —              | —              | 1              | 1              | —              | 2        |
| Hyperplasia of Prostate                   | 7           | —                   | —                           | —            | —             | —              | —              | —              | —              | —              | 2              | 5        |
| Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion           | 2           | —                   | —                           | —            | —             | 1              | 1              | —              | —              | —              | —              | —        |
| Congenital Malformations                  | 16          | 9                   | 6                           | 1            | —             | —              | —              | —              | —              | —              | —              | —        |
| Other Defined and Ill defined Diseases    | 78          | 20                  | —                           | —            | 2             | 2              | —              | 4              | 4              | 12             | 11             | 23       |
| Motor Vehicle Accidents                   | 7           | —                   | —                           | 1            | —             | 2              | —              | 2              | 1              | 1              | —              | —        |
| All Other Accidents                       | 30          | 2                   | 2                           | —            | —             | 2              | —              | 2              | 4              | 3              | 6              | 9        |
| Suicide                                   | 2           | —                   | —                           | —            | —             | —              | —              | —              | —              | 1              | 1              | —        |
| Homicide and Operations of War            | 1           | —                   | —                           | —            | —             | —              | —              | —              | 1              | —              | —              | —        |
| TOTALS                                    | 787         | 34                  | 13                          | 3            | 4             | 14             | 7              | 25             | 83             | 127            | 231            | 246      |

TABLE 2.

**Cancer**

The following table gives the deaths from Cancer, in age groups, and the localisation of the disease.

|                  | Ages in Years |                |                |                |          | Totals |
|------------------|---------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------|--------|
|                  | 1<br>to<br>24 | 25<br>to<br>44 | 45<br>to<br>64 | 65<br>to<br>74 | 75<br>up |        |
| Stomach ...      | —             | 2              | 10             | 13             | 8        | 33     |
| Lung & Bronchus  | —             | —              | 12             | 6              | 2        | 20     |
| Breast ...       | —             | —              | —              | 3              | —        | 3      |
| Uterus ...       | —             | —              | 3              | 2              | —        | 5      |
| Other Causes ... | 2             | 5              | 23             | 21             | 12       | 63     |
|                  | 2             | 7              | 48             | 45             | 22       | 124    |

TABLE 3.

**Table of Birth and Death Rates for the Past 10 Years**

| Year | General<br>Death Rate | Infantile<br>Death Rate | Birth Rate |
|------|-----------------------|-------------------------|------------|
| 1947 | 10.8                  | 63.1                    | 22.0       |
| 1948 | 9.9                   | 43.5                    | 21.1       |
| 1949 | 10.3                  | 48.3                    | 19.6       |
| 1950 | 10.4                  | 49.2                    | 18.3       |
| 1951 | 11.6                  | 39.5                    | 18.0       |
| 1952 | 9.9                   | 42.8                    | 17.5       |
| 1953 | 10.2                  | 39.8                    | 18.1       |
| 1954 | 10.0                  | 25.7                    | 17.9       |
| 1955 | 8.5                   | 33.6                    | 17.9       |
| 1956 | 9.4                   | 30.3                    | 18.9       |

| 1956                     | General<br>Death Rate | Infantile<br>Death Rate | Birth Rate |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|------------|
| England & Wales          | 11.7                  | 23.8                    | 15.7       |
| Easington Rural District | 9.4                   | 30.3                    | 18.9       |

**TABLE 4.**  
**Infantile Mortality Rates**  
**(10 years)**

| Year | Births | Easington R. D.<br>Inf. Mortality Rate | England & Wales<br>Inf. Mortality Rate |
|------|--------|--|--|
| 1947 | 1759   | 63.1                                   | 41                                     |
| 1948 | 1722   | 43.5                                   | 34                                     |
| 1949 | 1616   | 48.3                                   | 32                                     |
| 1950 | 1504   | 49.2                                   | 29.8                                   |
| 1951 | 1468   | 39.5                                   | 29.6                                   |
| 1952 | 1423   | 42.9                                   | 27.6                                   |
| 1953 | 1484   | 39.8                                   | 26.8                                   |
| 1954 | 1481   | 25.7                                   | 25.5                                   |
| 1955 | 1489   | 33.6                                   | 24.9                                   |
| 1956 | 1582   | 30.3                                   | 23.8                                   |

**TABLE 5.**  
**Death Rates (10 years)**

| Year | Deaths | Easington R. D.<br>Death Rate | England & Wales<br>Death Rate |
|------|--------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1947 | 862    | 10.8                          | 12.0                          |
| 1948 | 809    | 9.9                           | 10.8                          |
| 1949 | 850    | 10.3                          | 11.7                          |
| 1950 | 857    | 10.4                          | 11.6                          |
| 1951 | 945    | 11.6                          | 12.5                          |
| 1952 | 811    | 9.9                           | 11.3                          |
| 1953 | 834    | 10.2                          | 11.4                          |
| 1954 | 829    | 10.0                          | 11.3                          |
| 1955 | 710    | 8.5                           | 11.7                          |
| 1956 | 787    | 9.4                           | 11.7                          |

**TABLE 6.**  
**Natural Increase of Population**

| Year | Births | Deaths | Rate of Natural Increase<br>per 1,000 population. |
|------|--------|--------|---|
| 1947 | 1759   | 862    | 11.2  |
| 1948 | 1722   | 809    | 11.2  |
| 1949 | 1616   | 850    | 9.3   |
| 1950 | 1504   | 857    | 7.9   |
| 1951 | 1468   | 945    | 6.4   |
| 1952 | 1423   | 811    | 7.5   |
| 1953 | 1484   | 834    | 7.5   |
| 1954 | 1481   | 829    | 7.9   |
| 1955 | 1489   | 710    | 9.4   |
| 1956 | 1582   | 787    | 9.5   |



## SUMMARY OF STATISTICS, 1956

|   |    |    |    |    |    |    |          |
|---|----|----|----|----|----|----|----------|
| Population  | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 83,820   |
| Area (acres)  | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 34,653   |
| Estimated number of Hereditaments                         | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 27,496   |
| Rateable Value (at 1st April, 1956)                       | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | £345,243 |
| Sum produced by penny rate (1955-56)                      | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | £1,296   |
| Births  | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1,582    |
| Birth rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population |    |    |    |    |    |    | 18·87    |
| Deaths  | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 787      |
| Death rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population |    |    |    |    |    |    | 9·39     |
| Death rate of infants under one year of age               |    |    |    |    |    | .. | 30·34    |

## CHIEF CAUSES OF DEATH

| Cause   | Number | Percentage of total deaths |
|---|--------|----------------------------|
| Diseases of the heart                           | 245    | 31·13                      |
| Diseases of the veins and arteries of the brain | 130    | 16·52                      |
| Cancer  | 124    | 15·75                      |
| Bronchitis and pneumonia                        | 60     | 7·62                       |
| Tuberculosis (all forms)                        | 11     | 1·40                       |
| Tuberculosis ( pulmonary)                       | 9      | 1·14                       |

## INFECTIOUS DISEASES

| Diseases                           | Cases notified | Number of deaths |
|------------------------------------|----------------|------------------|
| Measles                            | 132            | —                |
| Scarlet Fever                      | 72             | —                |
| Tuberculosis (all forms) new cases | 48             | 11               |
| Whooping Cough                     | 21             | —                |
| Dysentery                          | 10             | —                |
| Acute Poliomyelitis                | 10             | —                |
| Meningococcal Infection            | 5              | 1                |
| Diphtheria                         | 1              | —                |

Influenza, which is not notifiable, caused 3 deaths.



## SECTION II.

TABLE 7

### INFECTIOUS AND OTHER NOTIFIABLE DISEASES, 1956

| Numbers Originally Notified<br>TOTAL (ALL AGES) .. | SCARLET FEVER |         | WHOOPING COUGH |         | ACUTE POLIOMYELITIS |        |        |        | MEASLES |         | DIPHTHERIA |        | DYSENTERY |        | MENINGOCOCCAL INFECTION |        |
|--|---------------|---------|----------------|---------|---------------------|--------|--------|--------|---------|---------|------------|--------|-----------|--------|-------------------------|--------|
|  | M<br>30       | F<br>42 | M<br>6         | F<br>15 | M<br>5              | F<br>5 | M<br>— | F<br>— | M<br>63 | F<br>69 | M<br>—     | F<br>1 | M<br>5    | F<br>5 | M<br>3                  | F<br>2 |
| Final Numbers after Correction                     | —             | —       | —              | —       | —                   | —      | —      | —      | —       | —       | —          | —      | —         | —      | —                       | —      |
| Under 1 year .. ..                                 | 1             | —       | 1              | 1       | —                   | 1      | —      | —      | 6       | 1       | —          | —      | —         | 1      | —                       | 1      |
| 1 year .. ..                                       | 1             | 1       | —              | 6       | —                   | 1      | —      | —      | 1       | 5       | —          | —      | —         | —      | —                       | —      |
| 2 years .. ..                                      | 1             | 1       | —              | 6       | —                   | 1      | —      | —      | 4       | 5       | —          | —      | —         | —      | —                       | —      |
| 3 years .. ..                                      | 1             | 6       | —              | 2       | 2                   | 1      | —      | —      | 4       | 5       | —          | —      | 1         | —      | —                       | —      |
| 4 years .. ..                                      | 2             | 2       | 1              | 3       | —                   | —      | —      | —      | 3       | 7       | —          | —      | —         | —      | —                       | —      |
| 5 — 9 years .. ..                                  | 23            | 24      | 4              | 2       | 1                   | —      | 1      | —      | 36      | 36      | —          | —      | 1         | 2      | 1                       | —      |
| 10 — 14 years .. ..                                | 2             | 7       | —              | —       | 1                   | —      | —      | —      | 6       | 7       | —          | —      | —         | 1      | —                       | —      |
| 15 — 24 years .. ..                                | —             | 2       | —              | —       | —                   | 1      | 1      | —      | 1       | 2       | —          | —      | —         | —      | —                       | —      |
| 25 and OVER .. ..                                  | —             | —       | —              | —       | —                   | —      | —      | —      | 2       | 1       | —          | —      | —         | 1      | —                       | —      |
| TOTAL (ALL AGES) ..                                | 30            | 42      | 6              | 15      | 4                   | 4      | 2      | —      | 63      | 69      | —          | —      | 2         | 5      | 1                       | 1      |

| Numbers Originally Notified<br>TOTAL (ALL AGES) .. | ACUTE PNEUMONIA |         | SMALLPOX |        | ACUTE ENCEPHALITIS |        |        |        | ENTERIC OR TYPHOID FEVER |        | PARATYPHOID FEVERS |        | ERYSIPELAS |        | FOOD POISONING |        |
|--|-----------------|---------|----------|--------|--------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------------------------|--------|--------------------|--------|------------|--------|----------------|--------|
|  | M<br>27         | F<br>14 | M<br>—   | F<br>— | M<br>—             | F<br>— | M<br>— | F<br>1 | M<br>—                   | F<br>— | M<br>1             | F<br>— | M<br>3     | F<br>4 | M<br>5         | F<br>4 |
| Final Numbers after Correction                     | 6               | 3       | —        | —      | —                  | —      | —      | —      | —                        | —      | —                  | —      | —          | —      | —              | 1      |
| Under 5 years .. ..                                | 2               | 1       | —        | —      | —                  | —      | —      | 1      | —                        | —      | —                  | —      | —          | —      | —              | 1      |
| 5 — 14 years .. ..                                 | 7               | 4       | —        | —      | —                  | —      | —      | —      | —                        | —      | —                  | —      | 1          | 1      | 2              | 1      |
| 15 — 44 years .. ..                                | 8               | 2       | —        | —      | —                  | —      | —      | —      | —                        | —      | —                  | —      | 1          | 3      | 1              | —      |
| 45 — 64 years .. ..                                | 3               | 4       | —        | —      | —                  | —      | —      | —      | —                        | —      | —                  | —      | 1          | —      | —              | —      |
| 65 and Over .. ..                                  | —               | —       | —        | —      | —                  | —      | —      | —      | —                        | —      | —                  | —      | —          | —      | —              | —      |
| TOTAL (ALL AGES) ..                                | 26              | 14      | —        | —      | —                  | —      | —      | 1      | —                        | —      | —                  | —      | 3          | 4      | 3              | 3      |

| Numbers Originally Notified<br>TOTAL (ALL AGES) .. | TUBERCULOSIS |         |                     |        |        |        | PUERPERAL<br>PYREXIA |
|--|--------------|---------|---------------------|--------|--------|--------|----------------------|
|  | Respiratory  |         | Meninges and C.N.S. |        | Other  |        |                      |
|  | M<br>22      | F<br>21 | M<br>—              | F<br>1 | M<br>1 | F<br>3 |                      |
| Final Numbers after Correction                     |              |         |                     |        |        |        |                      |
| Under 5 years .. ..                                | 1            | 2       | —                   | —      | —      | 1      |                      |
| 5 — 14 years .. ..                                 | 3            | 2       | —                   | 1      | —      | —      |                      |
| 15 — 24 years .. ..                                | 5            | 11      | —                   | —      | —      | 1      |                      |
| 25 — 44 years .. ..                                | 5            | 2       | —                   | —      | —      | —      |                      |
| 45 — 64 years .. ..                                | 8            | 3       | —                   | —      | 1      | 1      |                      |
| 65 and Over .. ..                                  | —            | 1       | —                   | —      | —      | —      |                      |
| TOTAL (ALL AGES) ..                                | 22           | 21      | —                   | 1      | 1      | 3      | 29                   |



## INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The main points of interest in the foregoing table can be briefly summarised as follows :—

Scarlet fever notifications numbered 72 as compared with 42 in 1955. The disease was most prevalent in the last quarter of the year.

Only one case suspected to be suffering from diphtheria was admitted to hospital, where the diagnosis was not confirmed. During each of the two previous years there were two confirmed cases of diphtheria in the district.

In comparison with the measles epidemic year of 1955 when 1,167 cases were notified, the district has been reasonably quiet. Notifications of this disease during the year numbered 132.

There were only 21 notifications of whooping cough compared with 190 the previous year.

Cases of erysipelas numbered seven compared with five last year.

Only two of the five notified cases of meningococcal infection were confirmed.

Ten cases of acute anterior poliomyelitis were reported. Of these, eight were found to be suffering from the paralytic form of the disease and two were not confirmed. Two cases which had been notified as meningitis, however, proved on hospital diagnosis to be suffering from non-paralytic poliomyelitis.

Puerperal pyrexia notifications numbered 29, the same figure as in 1955.

There were 43 new cases of pulmonary tuberculosis, a decrease of seven on last year.

Only 10 cases of dysentery were reported, and of these seven were confirmed. The 1955 epidemic produced 357 confirmed cases.

Of the nine notifications of food poisoning six were confirmed.

The cases occurred in widely separated parts of the district, and hospital treatment was necessary for four of the patients.

In compliance with Ministry of Health requirements, particulars of these six confirmed cases were sent to the Ministry as follows :—

## ANNUAL RETURN OF FOOD POISONING NOTIFICATIONS (Corrected)

1. LOCAL AUTHORITY — Easington Rural District Council :  
Year 1956.

2. FOOD POISONING NOTIFICATIONS (Corrected) RETURNED TO  
R.G.

| 1st Qtr. | 2nd Qtr. | 3rd Qtr. | 4th Qtr. | Total |
|----------|----------|----------|----------|-------|
| 2        | 1        | 3        | —        | 6     |

3. OUTBREAKS DUE TO IDENTIFIED AGENTS

Total Outbreaks — 0 ; Total Cases — 0 ;

4. OUTBREAKS OF UNDISCOVERED CAUSE

Total Outbreaks — 0 ; Total Cases — 0 ;

5. SINGLE CASES

Agent Identified—6 ; Unknown Cause—0 ; Total—6 cases.  
(6 cases Salm. typhi-murium.)

# SECTION III.

TABLE 8  
DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

The following details have been extracted from the Quarterly Reports of the County Medical Officer of Health.

| Quarter Ended | Primary Immunisations               |     |    |    |    |     |       |       | Re-inforcing Injections               |   |   |   |     |     |       |       |
|---------------|-------------------------------------|-----|----|----|----|-----|-------|-------|---------------------------------------|---|---|---|-----|-----|-------|-------|
|               | Age at Date of Primary Immunisation |     |    |    |    |     |       |       | Age at Date of Re-inforcing Injection |   |   |   |     |     |       |       |
|               | Under 1                             | 1   | 2  | 3  | 4  | 5-9 | 10-14 | Total | Under 1                               | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4   | 5-9 | 10-14 | Total |
| 31. 3.56      | 91                                  | 53  | 5  | 5  | —  | 126 | 103   | 383   | —                                     | — | — | — | 74  | 55  | 17    | 146   |
| 30. 6.56      | 146                                 | 59  | 8  | 3  | 8  | 6   | 1     | 231   | —                                     | — | — | 1 | 74  | 60  | 8     | 143   |
| 30. 9.56      | 102                                 | 46  | 8  | 2  | 4  | 3   | 2     | 167   | —                                     | — | — | — | 28  | 19  | 6     | 53    |
| 31.12.56      | 127                                 | 63  | 6  | 3  | 3  | 2   | —     | 204   | —                                     | — | 1 | 1 | 50  | 20  | 1     | 73    |
| TOTALS        | 466                                 | 221 | 27 | 13 | 15 | 137 | 106   | 985   | —                                     | — | 1 | 2 | 226 | 154 | 32    | 415   |



## SECTION IV.

## TUBERCULOSIS

TABLE 9.

Number of Cases on Register at 31st December, 1956.

| PULMONARY. |        |       | NON-PULMONARY. |        |       | TOTAL<br>CASES |
|------------|--------|-------|----------------|--------|-------|----------------|
| Male       | Female | Total | Male           | Female | Total |                |
| 313        | 286    | 599   | 161            | 150    | 311   | 910            |

TABLE 10.

## New Cases and Mortality, 1956

| Age Periods   | NEW CASES |        |               |        | DEATHS    |        |               |        |
|---------------|-----------|--------|---------------|--------|-----------|--------|---------------|--------|
|               | Pulmonary |        | Non-Pulmonary |        | Pulmonary |        | Non-Pulmonary |        |
|               | Male      | Female | Male          | Female | Male      | Female | Male          | Female |
|               |           |        |               |        |           |        |               |        |
| Under 5 years | 1         | 2      | —             | 1      | —         | —      | —             | —      |
| 5 — 14 years  | 3         | 2      | —             | 1      | —         | —      | —             | —      |
| 15 — 24 years | 5         | 11     | —             | 1      | —         | —      | —             | 1      |
| 25 — 44 years | 5         | 2      | —             | —      | 2         | —      | —             | —      |
| 45 — 64 years | 8         | 3      | 1             | 1      | 4         | 1      | 1             | —      |
| 65 and over   | —         | 1      | —             | —      | 2         | —      | —             | —      |
|               | 22        | 21     | 1             | 4      | 8         | 1      | 1             | 1      |



TABLE 12.

Deaths from Pulmonary Tuberculosis between the ages of 15 and 25 years, during the past 10 years.

| Year | Male | Female | Total | Percentage of Total Pulmonary Deaths |
|------|------|--------|-------|--------------------------------------|
| 1947 | 5    | 11     | 16    | 48%                                  |
| 1948 | 3    | 4      | 7     | 24%                                  |
| 1949 | 2    | 5      | 7     | 22%                                  |
| 1950 | 1    | 1      | 2     | 9%                                   |
| 1951 | 1    | 2      | 3     | 15%                                  |
| 1952 | —    | —      | —     | Nil                                  |
| 1953 | —    | 1      | 1     | 7%                                   |
| 1954 | —    | 1      | 1     | 8%                                   |
| 1955 | —    | 1      | 1     | 9%                                   |
| 1956 | —    | —      | —     | Nil                                  |

TABLE 13.

The following Table shows the number of deaths from Tuberculosis (all ages) during the past five years—the figures in parentheses indicating deaths occurring in previously notified cases of Tuberculosis.

| YEAR   | PULMONARY |         |         | NON-PULMONARY |        |       |
|--------|-----------|---------|---------|---------------|--------|-------|
|        | Male      | Female  | Total   | Male          | Female | Total |
| 1952   | 8 (5)     | 2 (1)   | 10 ( 6) | —             | 1 (—)  | 1 (—) |
| 1953   | 8 (5)     | 5 (2)   | 13 ( 7) | 2 (2)         | —      | 2 (2) |
| 1954   | 5 (4)     | 7 (7)   | 12 (11) | —             | —      | —     |
| 1955   | 9 (8)     | 2 (2)   | 11 (10) | —             | 1 (1)  | 1 (1) |
| 1956   | 8 (6)     | 1 (—)   | 9 ( 6)  | 1 (1)         | 1 (—)  | 2 (1) |
| Totals | 38 (28)   | 17 (12) | 55 (40) | 3 (3)         | 3 (1)  | 6 (4) |

## TUBERCULOSIS

The main points of interest in the tuberculosis tables are summarised as follows :—

Forty-three new cases of the pulmonary form of the disease were notified during the year comprising 22 males and 21 females. This was a decrease of seven upon the figure for 1955 which was 50, made up of 28 males and 22 females.

New notifications of the non-pulmonary form numbered four, a decrease of six upon the figure for 1955.

Deaths from the pulmonary form showed a decrease from 11 in 1955 to nine, and there were two non-pulmonary deaths against one last year.

The mortality rate for the district for the respiratory form of the disease was 0·107 per 1,000 of the population, which compares favourably with the figure of 0·109 for England and Wales as a whole. The non-pulmonary mortality rate for the district, however, was 0·024 as against the national rate of 0·012.

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## **SECTION V**

### **SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA**

#### **REPORT OF THE SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR**

To the Medical Officer of Health.

Sir,

I have pleasure in submitting a report of the work undertaken by the Inspectors of this department during the year 1956.

The various tables and statistics show continued activity in all the Public Health Services. 101 of the 187 families affected by the Murton No. 148 Clearance Order were re-housed during the year, and the Council made Representation for the second phase of clearance in this "Cornwall" district of Murton. The area, No. 149, comprises 160 houses accommodating 167 families.

Much time has been devoted during the year to meat inspection in private slaughterhouses of which there are 19 in this district. More than 21,000 animals were slaughtered and 3,200 stones of meat condemned as unfit for human consumption.

The supervision of food premises has continued during the year with satisfactory results in all parts of the district. The introduction of the new Food and Drugs Act with its Food Hygiene Regulations called for the concentrated efforts of the entire inspectorial staff, and the various tables in this section will show the work involved on inspections and visitation of food premises and street trading in the area.

I am once again grateful for the assistance of my colleagues in the Health Department and for the ready co-operation received from the chief officers.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

**R. E. V. WARRAND,**

Senior Public Health Inspector.

## WATER SUPPLY

Water undertakings supplying the District are :—

Sunderland and South Shields Water Company.

Durham County Water Board.

Wingate and District Water Company.

The National Coal Board.

Easington Rural District Council.

All 52 samples of mains water taken from public stand pipes or consumers' premises and submitted for bacteriological examination at the Public Health Laboratory, Sunderland, were satisfactory.

A typical analysis of a mains supply is as follows :—

| CHEMICAL ANALYSIS                     |    |    |    |    | PARTS PER MILLION |
|---------------------------------------|----|----|----|----|-------------------|
| Total Solids                          | .. | .. | .. | .. | 412               |
| Chloride                              | .. | .. | .. | .. | 28                |
| Chloride expressed as Sodium Chloride | .. |    |    |    | 46                |
| Nitrogen as Nitrate                   |    | .. | .. | .. | 5                 |
| Nitrogen as Nitrite                   |    | .. | .. | .. | nil.              |
| Free Ammonia                          | .. | .. | .. | .. | nil.              |
| Albuminoid Ammonia                    | .. | .. | .. | .. | 0·01              |
| Total Hardness                        | .. | .. | .. | .. | 379               |
| Temporary Hardness                    | .. | .. | .. | .. | 274               |
| Iron                                  | .. | .. | .. | .. | nil.              |
| pH Value                              | .. | .. | .. | .. | 7·3               |

## BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION

Organisms visible on agar after 48 hours  
incubation at 37°C. .. .. .

1

Coliform organisms absent from 1, 10 and 100 ml.

Particulars of the number of dwelling houses and the number of the population supplied from public water mains (a) direct to houses (b) by means of standpipes, are given in the following table.

| LOCALITY                | 1                    | 2             | 3  | 4  | 5  |
|-------------------------|----------------------|---------------|--|--|--|
|                         | Estimated population | Area in acres | Number of houses and other premises with dwelling ac'm'dat'n | No. of Houses with mains supply direct to houses | No. of Houses with mains supply from stand pipes |
| Burdon ..               | 83                   | 1286          | 23   |  |  |
| Seaton with Slingley .. | 439                  | 1392          | 149  | 186  | —  |
| Warden Law ..           | 49                   | 500           | 14   |  |  |
| Castle Eden ..          | 429                  | 1546          | 153  | 153  | —  |
| Cold Hesledon ..        | 1097                 | 1150          | 309  | 530  | —  |
| Dalton-le-Dale ..       | 634                  | 691           | 221  |  |  |
| Easington ..            | 10385                | 3709          | 3050   | 3050   | —  |
| Haswell ..              | 2632                 | 3767          | 1864   | 1742   | 8  |
| South Hetton ..         | 3252                 |               |  |  | 114  |
| Hutton Henry ..         | 471                  | 2012          | 820  | 818  | 2  |
| Station Town ..         | 2335                 |               |  |  | —  |
| Hawthorn ..             | 321                  | 1413          | 126  | 126  | —  |
| Blackhall ..            | 6702                 | 2654          | 2512   | 2470   | 42   |
| Hesledens ..            | 1409                 |               |  |  |  |
| Murton East ..          | 9075                 | 1406          | 2797   | 2325   | 472  |
| Sheraton with Hulam ..  | 126                  | 2346          | 42   | 45   | —  |
| Nesbitt ..              | 8                    | 333           | 3  |  |  |
| Shotton ..              | 6443                 | 1421          | 1840   | 1840   | —  |
| Horden ..               | 13284                | 1302          | 3797   | 3797   | —  |
| Peterlee ..             | 8590                 | 2007          | 2609   | 2609   | —  |
| Thornley ..             | 4318                 | 1148          | 1392   | 1381   | 11   |
| Wingate ..              | 4009                 | 4570          | 3610   | 3605   | 5  |
| Wheatley Hill ..        | 5852                 |               |  |  |  |
| Trimdon ..              | 1877                 |               |  |  |  |
| TOTALS ..               | 83820                | 34653         | 25331  | 24677  | 654  |

The following table shows the principal nuisances and defects dealt with during the year under the Public Health and Housing Acts :—

|  | No. of inspections | No. of Informal Notices served | No. of Statutory Notices served | Defects remedied after Notice |
|--|--------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| <b>Housing :</b>                           |                    |                                |                                 |                               |
| Public Health and Housing Acts ..          | 2805               | 336                            | 11                              | 250                           |
| Overcrowding ..                            | 40                 | —                              | —                               | —                             |
| <b>Sanitary Conveniences :</b>             |                    |                                |                                 |                               |
| Insufficient .. ..                         | —                  | —                              | —                               | —                             |
| Defective .. ..                            | 22                 | 13                             | —                               | 8                             |
| Drainage .. ..                             | 181                | 63                             | 4                               | 63                            |
| Water Supply .. ..                         | 83                 | 27                             | 1                               | 21                            |
| Food Premises .. ..                        | 4410               | 111                            | —                               | 52                            |
| Shops Act .. ..                            | 3                  | 1                              | —                               | —                             |
| Dairies .. ..                              | 82                 | 1                              | —                               | 1                             |
| <b>Slaughterhouses :</b>                   |                    |                                |                                 |                               |
| Public .. ..                               | —                  | —                              | —                               | —                             |
| Private .. ..                              | 3186               | 1                              | —                               | 1                             |
| Tents, Vans, etc. ..                       | 37                 | 2                              | —                               | 2                             |
| Offensive Trades ..                        | 65                 | 11                             | —                               | 11                            |
| Factories and Workplaces                   | 90                 | 10                             | —                               | 7                             |
| Keeping of Animals ..                      | 22                 | 8                              | —                               | 5                             |
| Insanitary Ashpits and Receptacles .. ..   | 106                | 31                             | 4                               | 32                            |
| Offensive accumulations                    | 47                 | 21                             | —                               | 19                            |
| Smoke Nuisances ..                         | 14                 | 4                              | —                               | 3                             |
| Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949 .. | 1728               | 27                             | —                               | 27                            |
| <b>TOTALS ..</b>                           | <b>12921</b>       | <b>667</b>                     | <b>20</b>                       | <b>502</b>                    |



## SMOKE ABATEMENT AND COLLIERY SPOILBANKS

Routine inspections have been made in conjunction with the Area Inspector Alkali, etc., Works of the Ministry of Health at all collieries disposing of waste on the surface, and where found necessary advice has been given to the National Coal Board with a view to the abatement of any nuisances found.

## MOVEABLE DWELLINGS

The three sites used in the Crimdon area are subject to regular visits, especially during the summer months. Licences authorising temporary accommodation have been issued during the year.

## VERMINOUS PREMISES

Eleven Council Houses and 15 private houses were disinfested of bed bugs. Accounts were rendered in the case of all privately owned dwellings to cover the cost of time and materials used.

In 98 cases of infestation of house property by cockroaches, etc., advice and active assistance were given.

## DISINFECTION OF PREMISES

241 visits and revisits were made to houses during the year in respect of infectious disease enquiries and for the purpose of disinfection. The following table shows the number of houses disinfected following infectious disease during the year :—

|                         |    |    |    |       |
|-------------------------|----|----|----|-------|
| Scarlet Fever           | .. | .. | .. | 72    |
| Diphtheria              | .. | .. | .. | 1     |
| Meningococcal Infection | .. | .. | .. | 5     |
| Dysentery               | .. | .. | .. | 10    |
| Tuberculosis            | .. | .. | .. | 21    |
| Food Poisoning          | .. | .. | .. | 9     |
| Poliomyelitis           | .. | .. | .. | 10    |
| Paratyphoid Fever       | .. | .. | .. | 1     |
|                         |    |    |    | <hr/> |
|                         |    |    |    | 129   |
|                         |    |    |    | <hr/> |

## LICENSED PREMISES, CLUBS, ETC.

110 inspections were carried out at licensed premises and clubs.

## CINEMAS AND PUBLIC HALLS

Seventeen inspections were made in respect of heating, lighting, ventilation and sanitary accommodation. One informal notice was served and two were complied with up to the end of the year.



## RODENT CONTROL

Two sewer maintenance treatments were carried out during the financial year at six-monthly intervals. The following table shows that of the 798 manholes baited 327 gave evidence of rat infestation :—

### SEWERS

|  | No of Manholes Baited. | No. of Manholes Baited showing part takes of pre-bait. | No. of Manholes Baited showing complete takes of pre-bait. | Approximate Cost. | Recoverable by Grant. | Nett Cost to Council. |
|--|------------------------|--|--|-------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Maintenance Treatment<br>(Year Ending 31/3/57) | 798                    | 218  | 109  | £489 12 8         | £244 16 4             | £244 16 4             |

The table overleaf summarises the work undertaken during the financial year. It will be observed that non-agricultural properties inspected either as a result of complaints received or in the course of normal daily routine showed 242 infestations by rats. Thirteen of these were found to be heavy or major infestations and 229 minor. Five properties were found to be seriously infested by mice. Altogether 351 properties affected by rat or mouse infestation were treated during the year. It will be observed that more time has been devoted to the inspection of agricultural property in the area, 90 visits by the Rodent Officer being made in 1956.

# Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949.

Report for 12 Months ended 31st March, 1957.

|  | TYPE OF PROPERTY          |   |   |   |                          |
|--|---------------------------|---|---|---|--------------------------|
|  | NON-AGRICULTURAL          |   |   |   | (5)<br>Agri-<br>cultural |
|  | (1)<br>Local<br>Authority | (2)<br>Dwelling<br>Houses (inc.<br>Council<br>Houses) | (3)<br>All other<br>(including<br>Business<br>Premises) | (4)<br>Total of<br>Cols. (1)<br>(2) and (3) |                          |
| I. Number of properties in Local Authority's District (Notes 1 and 2)  | 57                        | 24265   | 2290  | 26612                                       | 329                      |
| II. Number of properties inspected as a result of :—   |                           |   |   |   |                          |
| (a) Notification .. .. .   | 2                         | 271   | 64  | 337   | 3                        |
| (b) Survey under the Act ..  | 9                         | 42  | 23  | 74  | 81                       |
| (c) Otherwise (e.g., when visited primarily for some other purpose) .. .. .  | —                         | 5   | 7   | 12  | —                        |
| III. Total inspections carried out—including re-inspections (To be completed only if figures are readily available).           | 57                        | 1201  | 470   | 1728  | 90                       |
| IV. Number of properties inspected (in Sect. II) which were found to be infested by :—   |                           |   |   |   |                          |
| (a) Rats (Major .. .. .)   | 5                         | —   | 8   | 13  | 4                        |
| (Minor .. .. .)  | 4                         | 169   | 56  | 229   | 10                       |
| (b) Mice (Major .. .. .)   | —                         | —   | 5   | 5   | 2                        |
| (Minor .. .. .)  | 1                         | 104   | 18  | 123   | 16                       |
| V. Number of infested properties (in Sect. IV) treated by the L.A. (Figures should NOT exceed those given at Sect. IV) .. .. . | 7                         | 264   | 80  | 351   | 4                        |
| VI. Total treatments carried out—including re-treatments (To be completed only if figures are readily available).              | 11                        | 283   | 89  | 383   | 4                        |
| VII. Number of notices served under Sect. 4 of the Act :—  |                           |   |   |   |                          |
| (a) Treatment .. .. .  | —                         | —   | —   | —   | —                        |
| (b) Structural Work (i.e., Proofing)   | —                         | 27  | 15  | 42  | —                        |
| VIII. Number of cases in which default action was taken following the issue of a notice under Sect. 4 of the Act               | —                         | —   | —   | —   | —                        |
| IX. Legal Proceedings (see overleaf) ..  | —                         | —   | —   | —   | —                        |
| X. Number of "Block" control schemes carried out .. .. .   | 4                         | 12  | 27  | 43  | —                        |

### Notes

- NOTE 1. With the exception of agricultural properties, a property means one which is entered separately in the Valuation Roll for the area.
- NOTE 2. (i) Premises used by the L.A. for the purposes of trade should be entered in Column (3).
- (ii) Sewers should not be included.
- (iii) Combined dwelling and business premises, where occupied by the same person, should be regarded as business premises and should be entered in Column (3). Where the dwelling and business parts of the premises are in separate occupation, separate entries should be made in Columns (2) and (3).
- NOTE 3. For the purpose of completing Sections II, IV and V, each property should be entered **once only** in respect of inspections, infestations or treatments.

### HOUSING

A total of 274 Council houses was inspected during the year either on the occasion of the house becoming vacant or prior to exchange. The general condition of the property was invariably reported and both the Surveyor and the Accountant informed of details of disrepair. A valuable opportunity is given under this system of inspection prior to exchanges being confirmed to recommend refusal where a house is observed to be wilfully neglected or verminous. Colliery property in one parish is also subject to this system.

Twenty-two requests in respect of Council houses were investigated by the District Inspectors. Reports on the living conditions and circumstances of the applicants were prepared and forwarded to local members for their information and consideration

### INSPECTIONS AND NOTICES UNDER THE HOUSING ACTS, 1936-55

|                                    |    |      |
|------------------------------------|----|------|
| Number of visits and re-visits     | .. | 1034 |
| Number of informal notices served  | .. | 80   |
| Number of statutory notices served | .. | 2    |
| Number of notices complied with    | .. | 43   |

### PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936

Arising from police reports of persons exchanging toys for rags to children under the age of 14 years in contravention of Section 154 of the Public Health Act, 1936, the Council decided to prosecute in five cases during the year. Fines were imposed upon the offenders.

**FACTORY ACT, 1937**

During the year 90 inspections of premises subject to the provisions of the above Act were made, principally in connection with sanitary accommodation, and in those factories where mechanical power is not employed to ensure adequate lighting, ventilation, heating, general cleanliness and prevention of overcrowding in workrooms.

Informal action to remedy defects was taken on three occasions with satisfactory results.



# FACTORIES ACTS 1937 & 1948

## PART I OF THE ACT.

1.—INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health  
(including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors)

| Premises<br>(1)   | Number<br>on<br>Register<br>(2) | Number of          |                           |                                |
|---|---------------------------------|--------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------------|
|   |                                 | Inspections<br>(3) | Written<br>notices<br>(4) | Occupiers<br>prosecuted<br>(5) |
| (i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3,<br>4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local<br>Authorities .. .. .                | 26                              | 40                 | —                         | —                              |
| (ii) Factories not included in (i) in which<br>Section 7 is enforced by the Local<br>Authority .. .. .                | 81                              | 50                 | —                         | —                              |
| (iii) Other Premises in which Section<br>7 is enforced by the Local Authority<br>(excluding out-workers' premises) .. | 22                              | —                  | —                         | —                              |
| TOTAL .. .. .   | 129                             | 90                 | —                         | —                              |

## 2.—Cases in which DEFECTS were found.

| Particulars<br>(1)  | Number of cases in which defects were found |                 |                             |   | Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6) |
|---|---|-----------------|-----------------------------|---|---|
|   | Found<br>(2)                                | Remedied<br>(3) | To H.M.<br>Inspector<br>(4) | Referred<br>By H.M.<br>Inspector<br>(5) |   |
| Want of cleanliness (S.1) .. ..   | 2   | 2               | —                           | —                                       | —   |
| Overcrowding (S.2) .. ..  | —   | —               | —                           | —                                       | —   |
| Unreasonable temperature (S.3) ..   | —   | —               | —                           | —                                       | —   |
| Inadequate ventilation (S.4) .. ..  | —   | —               | —                           | —                                       | —   |
| Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6) ..                                     | —   | —               | —                           | —                                       | —   |
| Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)   | 3   | 1               | —                           | 3                                       | —   |
| (a) insufficient .. ..  |   |                 |                             |   |   |
| (b) unsuitable or defective ..  | 5   | 4               | —                           | —                                       | —   |
| (c) Not separate for sexes .. ..  | —   | —               | —                           | —                                       | —   |
| Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork) | —   | —               | —                           | —                                       | —   |
| TOTAL .. ..   | 10  | 7               | —                           | 3                                       | —   |

# PART VIII OF THE ACT.

## OUTWORK

(SECTIONS 110 and 111)

| Nature of Work<br>(1) | Section 110   |   |   | Section 111  |                    |                  |
|-----------------------|---|---|---|--|--------------------|------------------|
|                       | No. of out-workers in August list required by Section 110 (1) (c) (2) | No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council (3) | No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists (4) | No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises (5) | Notices served (6) | Prosecutions (7) |
| Plastic bags          | 1   | —   | —   | —  | —                  | —                |

**Carcases, Organs and Edible Offal condemned as being unfit for Human Consumption during year 1956.**

|                          | Carcases, etc. |      |        |      | Lungs (Sets) |       |     | Hearts |       |     | Kidneys |       |     | Livers                      |       |     | Heads and Tongues |       |     | Sets, Stomachs and Intestines |       |     | Fat |       |     | Udders |     | Spleen |       |     |
|--------------------------|----------------|------|--------|------|--------------|-------|-----|--------|-------|-----|---------|-------|-----|-----------------------------|-------|-----|-------------------|-------|-----|-------------------------------|-------|-----|-----|-------|-----|--------|-----|--------|-------|-----|
|                          | Beef           | Veal | Mutton | Pork | Ox           | Sheep | Pig | Ox     | Sheep | Pig | Ox      | Sheep | Pig | Ox                          | Sheep | Pig | Ox                | Sheep | Pig | Ox                            | Sheep | Pig | Ox  | Sheep | Pig | Cow    | Sow | Ox     | Sheep | Pig |
| Abscesses .. ..          |                |      | 1      |      |              | 1     |     |        | 1     |     | 3       | 1     |     | 152                         | 1     | 2   |                   | 1     |     |                               | 1     |     |     | 1     |     |        |     |        | 1     |     |
| Actinobacillosis ..      |                |      |        |      |              |       |     |        |       |     |         |       |     | 2                           |       |     | 5                 |       |     |                               |       |     |     |       |     |        |     |        |       |     |
| Actinomycosis ..         |                |      |        |      |              |       |     |        |       |     |         |       |     |                             |       |     | 4                 |       |     |                               |       |     |     |       |     |        |     |        |       |     |
| Carcinoma .. ..          |                |      |        |      |              |       |     |        |       |     |         |       |     |                             | 1     |     |                   |       |     |                               |       |     |     |       |     |        |     |        |       |     |
| Cirrhosis .. ..          |                |      |        |      |              |       |     |        |       |     |         |       |     | 601 + 1162<br>(Part Livers) |       | 108 |                   |       |     |                               |       |     |     |       |     |        |     |        |       |     |
| Congestion .. ..         |                |      |        |      | 5            |       |     |        |       |     |         |       |     |                             |       |     |                   |       |     |                               |       |     |     |       |     |        |     |        |       |     |
| Cystic Conditions ..     |                |      |        |      | 340          |       |     |        |       |     | 4       |       | 4   |                             |       |     |                   |       |     |                               |       |     |     |       |     |        |     |        |       |     |
| Cysticercus Bovis ..     |                |      |        |      |              |       |     | 3      |       |     |         |       |     |                             |       |     | 15                |       |     |                               |       |     |     |       |     |        |     |        |       |     |
| Decomposition .. ..      |                |      |        | 1c   |              |       | 1   |        |       | 1   |         |       | 1   |                             |       | 1   |                   |       | 1   |                               |       | 1   |     |       | 1   |        |     |        |       | 1   |
| Distomatosis .. ..       |                |      |        |      |              |       |     |        |       |     |         |       |     |                             | 57    |     |                   |       |     |                               |       |     |     |       |     |        |     |        |       |     |
| Emaciation &/or Oedema   | 3              | 1c   | 5      |      | 4            | 5     |     | 4      | 5     |     | 4       | 5     |     | 4                           | 5     |     | 4                 | 5     |     | 4                             | 5     |     | 4   | 5     |     | 2      |     | 4      | 5     |     |
| Enteritis .. ..          |                |      |        |      |              |       |     |        |       |     |         |       |     |                             |       |     |                   |       | 1   |                               |       |     |     |       |     |        |     |        |       |     |
| Hepatitis .. ..          |                |      |        |      |              |       |     |        |       |     |         |       |     |                             | 5     |     |                   |       |     |                               |       |     |     |       |     |        |     |        |       |     |
| Insufficient Bleeding .. | 1              |      |        |      | 1            |       |     | 1      |       |     | 1       |       |     | 1                           |       |     | 1                 |       |     | 1                             |       |     | 1   |       |     |        |     | 1      |       |     |
| Leukaemia .. ..          |                |      | 1      |      |              |       | 1   |        |       | 1   |         |       | 1   |                             |       | 1   |                   |       | 1   |                               |       | 1   |     |       | 1   |        |     |        |       | 1   |
| Mastitis .. ..           |                |      |        |      |              |       |     |        |       |     |         |       |     |                             |       |     |                   |       |     |                               |       |     |     |       |     | 9      |     |        |       |     |
| Nephritis .. ..          |                |      |        |      |              |       |     |        |       |     | 4       |       | 2   |                             |       |     |                   |       |     |                               |       |     |     |       |     |        |     |        |       |     |
| Pericarditis .. ..       |                |      |        |      |              |       |     | 9      |       |     |         |       |     |                             |       |     |                   |       |     |                               |       |     |     |       |     |        |     |        |       |     |
| Peritonitis .. ..        |                |      |        | 2    |              |       | 2   |        |       | 2   |         |       | 2   |                             |       | 2   |                   |       | 2   |                               |       | 3   |     |       | 3   |        |     |        |       | 2   |
| Pleurisy .. ..           |                |      |        | 1    | 6            |       | 9   |        |       | 9   |         |       | 1   |                             |       | 9   |                   |       | 1   |                               |       | 1   |     |       | 1   |        |     |        |       | 1   |
| Pneumonia .. ..          |                | 1c   |        | 1    | 4            | 37    | 53  | 1      | 30    | 37  | 1       |       | 1   | 1                           | 30    | 37  | 1                 |       | 1   | 1                             |       | 1   | 1   |       | 1   |        |     | 1      | 26    | 1   |
| Septic Conditions ..     | 1              |      |        | 3    | 1            |       | 3   | 1      |       | 3   | 1       |       | 3   | 1                           |       | 3   | 1                 |       | 3   | 1                             |       | 3   | 1   |       | 3   | 1      |     | 1      |       | 3   |
| Telangiectasis .. ..     |                |      |        |      |              |       |     |        |       |     |         |       |     | 2                           |       |     |                   |       |     |                               |       |     |     |       |     |        |     |        |       |     |
| Traumatism .. ..         |                |      |        |      |              |       |     |        |       |     | 1       |       |     |                             |       |     |                   |       |     |                               |       |     |     |       |     |        |     |        |       |     |
| Tuberculosis .. ..       | 9              | 1c   |        | 1c+1 | 216          |       | 84  | 14     |       | 84  | 18      |       | 2   | 80                          |       | 84  | 157               |       | 106 | 16                            |       | 2   | 15  |       | 2   | 9      | 2   | 14     |       | 2   |
| Uraemia .. ..            |                |      |        | 1    |              |       | 1   |        |       | 1   |         |       | 1   | 1                           |       | 1   |                   |       | 1   |                               |       | 1   |     |       |     | 1      |     |        |       | 1   |

91 sts. 4 lbs. meat surrendered for other reasons.

"C" indicates Casualty Animal





## SUPERVISION OF FOOD SUPPLIES

### INSPECTION OF MEAT AND OTHER FOODS

#### MEAT

Private Slaughtering at the 19 licensed slaughterhouses in the district has proceeded smoothly during the year and where necessary improvements to premises and facilities have been sought.

Perusal of the following tables will show that 21,107 animals have been slaughtered to serve the needs of the district and that 3,212½ stones of meat and edible offal were condemned. Part of this was collected by a recognised salvage firm from the Cleansing Department at Murton and disposed of by incineration.

#### OTHER FOODS

The inspectors of the department have continued to issue condemnation certificates in support of traders' claims against suppliers. These certificates are normally accepted without question by the suppliers.

During the year 368 stones of other foods were condemned, a decrease of 116 on the figure of 484 for the year 1955.

|  | Cattle excluding<br>Cows | Cows | Calves                   | Sheep                      | Pigs                       |
|--|--------------------------|------|--------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| Number Slaughtered   | 5072                     | 406  | 26 plus<br>13 Casualties | 8745 plus<br>23 Casualties | 6811 plus<br>11 Casualties |
| Whole Carcases condemned<br>(T.B. only) .. ..  | 2                        | 7    | 1 Casualty               | —                          | 1 plus<br>1 Casualty       |
| Carcases of which some part or<br>organ condemned (T.B. only)                                      |                          | 434  | —                        | —                          | 350                        |
| Percentage of number inspected<br>affected with T.B. .. ..   |                          | 8.1  | 2.6                      | —                          | 5.2                        |
| Carcases condemned (All diseases<br>and conditions excluding T.B.)                                 | 2                        | 3    | 2 Casualties             | 6                          | 8                          |
| Carcases of which some part or<br>organ condemned. (All diseases<br>and conditions excluding T.B.) |                          | 558  | —                        | 181                        | 280                        |
| Percentage of number inspected<br>affected with disease or condition<br>other than T.B. .. ..      |                          | 10.3 | 5.1                      | 2.1                        | 4.2                        |

## Provisions, Fish, etc., Condemned as being unfit for Human Consumption during the year, 1956

| Cause of Unfitness                          | Provisions, Loose  | Tinned Foods  | Fish               |
|---|--|---|--------------------|
| Decomposition                               | Bacon and Ham      sts. lbs.<br>24   1½<br>Cooked Ham      12¾<br>Manufactured<br>Meat Products    17   12½<br>Sundries          19   0¼ | sts. lbs.   | sts. lbs.<br>3   7 |
| Rancidity                                   | Butter                1   10¾<br>Margarine           1   2¾  |   |                    |
| Excessive Mould                             | Cheese                4   3  |   |                    |
| Decomposition                               | Cake                  2   1½<br>Cereals, etc.        1   10<br>Sugar                3   0  |   |                    |
| Fermentation                                | Dried Fruits          1   7  |   |                    |
| Contaminated with flood water               | 20 Packets Potato       ¾<br>Crisps<br>48 Bars Mint Rock    6<br>48 Mars Bars          6   | 88 Tins Fish Products      3   4¼<br>1289 Tins Fruit            115   2½<br>768 Tins Meat Products   106   2¼<br>244 Tins Milk              14   3¼<br>6 Tins Preserves        6<br>2 Tins Sundries        1¼<br>595 Tins Veg. Products    42   2 |                    |
| Decomposition due to Blown and Damaged Tins |  | 13 Jars Fruit                13<br>53 Jars Preserves        3   10<br>15 Jars Fish                2¾  |                    |
| Breakages                                   |  |   |                    |



|  |                           |
|--|---------------------------|
| Total weight of Meat and Edible Offal<br>condemned .. .. . | 3,212 sts. 9 lbs.         |
| Total weight of Tinned Foods, etc.,<br>condemned .. .. .   | 368 sts. 3 lbs.           |
| Total Weight ..  | <u>3,580 sts. 12 lbs.</u> |

= 22 tons 7 cwts. 4 sts. 12 lbs.

| Year ending<br>31st December | Weight of Meat and<br>Other Foods Condemned |       |      |                  |
|------------------------------|---|-------|------|------------------|
|                              | tons.                                       | cwts. | sts. | lbs.             |
| 1947 .. .. .                 | 29  | 13    | 0    | 5 $\frac{1}{4}$  |
| 1948 .. .. .                 | 30  | 3     | 7    | 6 $\frac{3}{4}$  |
| 1949 .. .. .                 | 24  | 18    | 3    | 10 $\frac{3}{4}$ |
| 1950 .. .. .                 | 33  | 3     | 6    | 10 $\frac{3}{4}$ |
| 1951 .. .. .                 | 29  | 4     | 3    | 10               |
| 1952 .. .. .                 | 23  | 7     | 0    | 9 $\frac{1}{4}$  |
| 1953 .. .. .                 | 23  | 9     | 3    | 6 $\frac{1}{4}$  |
| 1954 .. .. .                 | 27  | 0     | 7    | 13               |
| 1955 .. .. .                 | 22  | 7     | 2    | 1 $\frac{1}{2}$  |
| 1956 .. .. .                 | 22  | 7     | 4    | 12               |

#### PUBLIC HEALTH (MEAT) REGULATIONS, 1924–1952

Vehicles used for the transport of carcase meat were frequently examined during the year and found to be generally maintained in a satisfactory condition.

#### DISEASES OF ANIMALS ACTS, 1894–1909

In January notification was received of a confirmed case of Anthrax in an animal at Horden. Steps were immediately taken in conformity with the articles of the Order for the disinfection of the premises.

#### SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACTS, 1933–1954.

All animals were stunned and slaughtered by competent licensed slaughtermen and all precautions taken to prevent any unnecessary suffering by the animals.

The number of licences issued during the year to persons authorising them to slaughter animals in a slaughterhouse or knackers yard was 60. This figure included six new licences issued during the year,

### TUBERCULOSIS ORDER, 1938

No notifications in respect of affected animals were received during the year under the above Order.

### FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955

In the rural district regular inspections continued to be made of all premises where food is prepared or stored for purposes of sale. Wherever it has been felt necessary, district public health inspectors have urged traders to provide refrigeration equipment.

The types of food premises registered, visited and subject to informal action during the year are detailed in the following table :—

| Premises          | Number Registered | Number of Inspections | Notices Served | Notices Complied With |
|-------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|----------------|-----------------------|
| Fish Shops        | 55                | 108                   | 11             | 11                    |
| Butchers' Shops   | 61                | 96                    | 13             | 10                    |
| Ice Cream Shops   | 157               | 85                    | 1              | 1                     |
| Restaurants, etc. | Nil               | 50                    | 5              | 5                     |
| Other Food Prem.  | Nil.              | 4071                  | 78             | 75                    |
| <b>TOTALS</b>     | <b>273</b>        | <b>4410</b>           | <b>108</b>     | <b>102</b>            |

Seventeen applications for registration of premises for "The sale of ice-cream" under Section 16 of the Act were received during the year, all of which were approved. In the majority of cases the applications, by mutual consent, were not submitted for consideration until the shopkeeper had discussed his proposal with the inspector for the particular district and satisfied him on the arrangements provided.

Ice-cream samples numbering 126 were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory, Sunderland for bacteriological examination. The villages at which the samples were collected and their grading are shown in table form. All samples attaining grades one and two are regarded as satisfactory. It will be observed from the following comparison that the standard has improved on that of last year.

| Year | No. of samples<br>taken | No.<br>satisfactory | Percentage<br>satisfactory |
|------|-------------------------|---------------------|----------------------------|
| 1950 | 155                     | 127                 | 82%                        |
| 1951 | 163                     | 145                 | 89%                        |
| 1952 | 136                     | 126                 | 93%                        |
| 1953 | 132                     | 129                 | 98%                        |
| 1954 | 143                     | 135                 | 94%                        |
| 1955 | 120                     | 111                 | 92%                        |
| 1956 | 126                     | 123                 | 98%                        |

(All samples submitted to Methylene Blue Reduction Test)

An additional 21 samples of ice-cream manufactured within the rural district were collected for fat analysis and examined by Mr. W. Gordon Carey, Public Analyst, Newcastle-upon-Tyne. Three of these were found to be below the required standard and the facts were reported to the appropriate authority. In one case a fine was imposed.

Appropriate action has been taken under the Food Hygiene Regulations of this Act requiring occupiers of food premises to conform to the higher standards laid down.

ICE CREAM SAMPLING—YEAR 1956

| District           | Methylene Blue |       |   |       |   |      |   | Fat Content |       |       |      |
|--------------------|----------------|-------|---|-------|---|------|---|-------------|-------|-------|------|
|                    | Grades         |       |   |       |   |      |   | Above       | %     | Below | %    |
|                    | 1              | %     | 2 | %     | 3 | %    | 4 | %           |       |       |      |
| Blackhall Colliery | 7              | 100·0 | — | —     | — | —    | — | —           | 100·0 | —     | —    |
| Blackhall Rocks .. | 1              | 100·0 | — | —     | — | —    | — | —           | —     | —     | —    |
| Castle Eden ..     | 2              | 100·0 | — | —     | — | —    | — | —           | —     | —     | —    |
| Dalton-le-Dale ..  | 6              | 100·0 | — | —     | — | —    | — | 1           | 100·0 | —     | —    |
| Easington ..       | 3              | 100·0 | — | —     | — | —    | — | —           | —     | —     | —    |
| Easington Colliery | 11             | 91·7  | — | —     | — | 8·3  | 1 | —           | 60·0  | 2     | 40·0 |
| Haswell ..         | 2              | 100·0 | — | —     | — | —    | — | —           | —     | —     | —    |
| Hawthorn ..        | 6              | 100·0 | — | —     | — | —    | — | —           | —     | —     | —    |
| Horden ..          | 13             | 92·9  | 1 | 7·1   | — | —    | — | 3           | 100·0 | —     | —    |
| Murton ..          | 11             | 91·7  | 1 | 8·3   | — | —    | — | 4           | 100·0 | —     | —    |
| Seaton ..          | —              | —     | 1 | 100·0 | — | —    | — | —           | —     | —     | —    |
| Shotton ..         | 12             | 100·0 | — | —     | — | —    | — | —           | —     | —     | —    |
| South Hetton ..    | 6              | 100·0 | — | —     | — | —    | — | —           | —     | —     | —    |
| Station Town ..    | 3              | 100·0 | — | —     | — | —    | — | —           | —     | —     | —    |
| Thornley ..        | 4              | 66·6  | 1 | 16·7  | — | 16·7 | 1 | 1           | 100·0 | —     | —    |
| Trimdon Station .. | 2              | 100·0 | — | —     | — | —    | — | 1           | 100·0 | —     | —    |
| Wheatley Hill ..   | 10             | 100·0 | — | —     | — | —    | — | 1           | 100·0 | —     | —    |
| Wingate ..         | 17             | 80·9  | 3 | 4·8   | 1 | 14·3 | — | 3           | 75·0  | 1     | 25·0 |
| Total ..           | 116            | 92·1  | 7 | 5·5   | 1 | 0·8  | 2 | 1·6         | 85·7  | 3     | 14·3 |

|                              |    |    |    |    |     |
|------------------------------|----|----|----|----|-----|
| Total Methylene Blue Samples | .. | .. | .. | .. | 126 |
| Total Fat Content Samples    | .. | .. | .. | .. | 21  |



## MILK SUPPLY—SUPERVISION

Regular inspections of dairies have been carried out by the public health inspectors and any infringements of the Regulations have been reported to those concerned.

Milk samples submitted for examination during the year totalled 337 consisting of 16 samples of raw milk which were tested for keeping quality and cleanliness, and 321 samples of pasteurised and sterilised which were subjected to additional tests designed to establish the efficiency of heat treatment.

On three occasions when raw milk samples failed to satisfy the prescribed tests and the District Inspectors reported favourably on the distributors' premises and methods, copies of the bacteriologist's reports were forwarded for information to the County Milk Production Officer.

All results received from pasteurised milk samples were satisfactory.

During the course of the year 258 inspections of distributors premises were made.

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# MILK SAMPLING.

337 samples of raw and heat treated milk were taken for examination during 1956, with the following results :—

|                          | No. of<br>Samples Taken | Methylene<br>Blue Test |                |                  | Phosphatase<br>Test |                |                  | Turbidity<br>Test |                |                  | Biological<br>Examination for<br>Tuberculosis |                  |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|----------------|------------------|---------------------|----------------|------------------|-------------------|----------------|------------------|---|------------------|
|                          |                         | Satisfactory           | Unsatisfactory | % Unsatisfactory | Satisfactory        | Unsatisfactory | % Unsatisfactory | Satisfactory      | Unsatisfactory | % Unsatisfactory | Satisfactory                                  | % Unsatisfactory |
| T.T. Milk ..             | 16                      | 12                     | 3              | 20.0             | —                   | —              | —                | 1                 | —              | —                | 1   | —                |
| Pasteurised Milk ..      | 220                     | 110                    | —              | —                | 110                 | —              | —                | —                 | —              | —                | —   | —                |
| T.T. Pasteurised Milk .. | 90                      | 45                     | —              | —                | 45                  | —              | —                | —                 | —              | —                | —   | —                |
| Sterilised Milk ..       | 11                      | —                      | —              | —                | —                   | —              | —                | 11                | —              | —                | —   | —                |

## HOUSING, WATER SUPPLY AND SEWERAGE

(CONTRIBUTED BY THE ENGINEER AND SURVEYOR)

### HOUSING

The construction of new houses in the Council's district continued satisfactorily during 1956, and a total of 158 traditional houses were completed during the year. The total number of houses completed since the end of the war was 2,404, making the total number of houses owned by the Council 7,083. Included in the total of 158 houses completed were 17—2 bedroomed bungalows which were specially designed to meet the requirements of paraplegics and disabled persons. Work on the construction of 187 houses to replace families living in the confirmed slum clearance area at Murton continued, and 101 families were re-housed. Work also commenced on the demolition and clearance of the site of the old houses.

### MURTON 1914 CONVERSION SCHEME

Work on the improvement of 102 houses at Murton under the 1949 Housing Act continued during the year and 22 houses were completed, making the total number completed to date 95.

### RANGE RENEWAL AND IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMME

Work has continued satisfactorily during the year on the scheme of improving pre-war Council houses. During the period a further 542 dwellings were completed, bringing the total completed up to the end of the year to 1,548.

### HOUSING MAINTENANCE

The maintaining of Council Houses continued and in all 21,753 repairs were made to pre-war houses and 12,986 repairs to post-war houses.

### PRIVATE HOUSING

During the year 30 houses were completed and occupied by private enterprise, and building plans submitted and approved for further houses totalled 35.

### WATER SUPPLY

A satisfactory supply of water was maintained in the Council's water supply area and also in the area served by the Sunderland and South Shields Water Company and the National Coal Board.

In connection with the Council's own supply area, daily inspections were made at the two service reservoirs owned by the

Council, one at Thornley with a capacity of 750,000 gallons and the other at Haswell with a capacity of 148,200 gallons.

Daily recordings of water levels and the quantities pumped into the Council's bulk delivery points enabled graph records to be prepared for the purpose of detecting waste or unduly high consumption, and also to enable pumping instructions to the Water Company to be related to the water demand.

#### WASTE PREVENTION

In the Council's supply area a regular routine inspection of domestic fittings was carried out on all properties, and where required cold water supply taps and ball taps were rewashed free of charge.

The general position with regard to wastage of water is satisfactory.

#### PROPERTIES WITHOUT MAIN SUPPLY

The number of houses with stand-pipe supply in the various districts of the Council's area are as follows :—

|                    |    |    |    |      |
|--------------------|----|----|----|------|
| Castle Eden        | .. | .. | .. | Nil. |
| Haswell            | .. | .. | .. | 8    |
| South Hetton       | .. | .. | .. | 114  |
| Hutton Henry       | .. | .. | .. | 2    |
| Station Town       | .. | .. | .. | Nil. |
| Sheraton and Hulam | .. | .. | .. | Nil. |
| Nesbitt            | .. | .. | .. | Nil. |
| Thornley           | .. | .. | .. | 11   |
| Wingate            | .. | .. | .. | Nil. |
| Wheatley Hill      | .. | .. | .. | 5    |
| Trimdon            | .. | .. | .. | Nil. |

#### METERS

Fourteen district meters recording the total consumption in the Council's supply area continued to be read fortnightly and consumptions recorded.

During the year 17 additional water meters were installed to private consumers, 2 private meters were replaced by Council owned meters on a rental basis, and 1 meter supply was discontinued. The total number of meters supplied in the Council's area of supply is now 205, of which 193 are the property of the Council and supplied on a rental basis.



## NEW MAINS

To accommodate new housing development the following communication pipes were laid from the existing mains :—

|                 |    |                            |
|-----------------|----|----------------------------|
| Horden ..       | .. | Connections for 33 houses. |
| South Hetton .. | .. | Connections for 2 houses.  |
| Hutton Henry .. | .. | Connections for 2 houses.  |

## GENERAL MAINTENANCE

There occurred in various places throughout the area several minor watermain fractures at Easington, South Hetton, Wingate, Deaf Hill and Haswell, and a section of a sub-service main had to be renewed at Haswell Plough.

## SOFT WATER DISTRIBUTION

No change in the position with regard to soft water took place and the villages deriving benefit of the blended water available by the laying of the Burnhope pipe line were Murton, South Hetton, Easington Village and Dalton-le-Dale. The southern part of the Council's district covering the largest portion of the Council's supply area is still hard being drawn from the magnesium limestone band at the New Winning Pumping Station.

## SEWERAGE

The work of maintaining the complex system of sewers in the Council's area continued during the year and particular attention was given to those parts of the area where flooding had previously been experienced. Stoppages in the sewers were cleared as they were reported, and generally the system has been maintained at a satisfactory level. Major works undertaken during the year include the following :—

### SHOTTON LANE PUMPING STATION

Considerable silting up of the length of sewer from Whitehouse Farm to Shotton Lane Pumping Station was resulting in numerous stoppages. Investigations revealed that due to mining subsidence in the area the gradients were reduced to less than that required to maintain self-cleansing velocity in the sewer. A length of 120 lineal yards of 15 in. diameter sewer was relaid to new levels and in addition a silt trap was built at the Pumping Station to prevent the silt entering and damaging the pumps.

### DALTON-LE-DALE

One extra storm overflow manhole was constructed with 30 lineal yards of 6 in. diameter glazed earthenware pipes to relieve

flooding in the lower part of Dalton-le-Dale pending reconstruction of a major portion of this outfall.

#### COLD HESLEDON

At Glebe Farm the stream was found to be polluted with sewage which appeared to originate from a 24 in. diameter surface water sewer. Investigations showed that some break in one of the Council's sewers had occurred near the surface water sewer allowing sewage to escape and discharge into the watercourse. To remedy this position 49 lineal yards of tunnel was necessary under a County Council main road, and 59 yards of 12 in. diameter glazed earthenware sewer was relaid.

#### DEAF HILL

Following subsidence in Purvis Terrace the sewer was found to have a reverse gradient. Work of relaying the sewer necessitated renewal of 43 lineal yards of 6 in. diameter pipes.

#### DEAF HILL—CORONATION TERRACE

Following repeated stoppages and complaints the sewer in Coronation Terrace was investigated and found to be laid at the shallow depth of 1 ft. 9 in. and with improperly constructed joints. To remedy this position it was necessary to relay 48 lineal yards of 6 in. diameter glazed earthenware pipes to proper levels.

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## PUBLIC CLEANSING

(CONTRIBUTED BY THE CLEANSING SUPERINTENDENT)

### COLLECTION OF HOUSEHOLD REFUSE

The work of the department has been satisfactorily carried out during the year and all complaints have received immediate attention. The whole of the district received a twice and in some cases three times weekly service, this being necessary due to the poor quality of coal delivered.

From the 27,362 houses, other buildings and dwellings in the district 2,622,484 collections were made, an increase of 142,907 over the year. This represents an average of 50,432 collections per week. Tonnage during this period amounted to 97,819 tons, an increase over the previous year of 1,505 tons.

Twenty-four vehicles travelled 143,245 miles using 28,649 gallons of petrol.

### DISPOSAL AREAS

All disposal areas are being worked by the semi-controlled method, and although occasional fires occurred, no great expense has been necessary to abate this nuisance.

### DUST BINS

During the year 253 private dust bins have been sold, and 852 supplied to Council House tenants.

### PUBLIC CONVENIENCES AND BUS SHELTERS

Twenty-three conveniences in the district are cleansed daily, and thirty-seven bus shelters receive attention by this department.

### TRADE REFUSE

Trade refuse is collected during normal rounds and quarterly accounts submitted. The charge of 7d. per bin or its equivalent is in relation to the number of bins or quantity. Eighty-five tradespeople throughout the district have taken advantage of this service bringing in a total of £235 13s. 2d.

### SALVAGE

496 tons of Waste Paper was sold bringing in the revenue of £4,286. Other materials salvaged included 51½ tons of Metals, 11 tons Textiles and 2,346½ gross Bottles and Jars. The total salvage revenue amounting to £5,526.

May I take this opportunity of thanking all Officials and Staff for their help and co-operation during the year.









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William Barlow & Son, Ltd.,  
West Hartlepool

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